

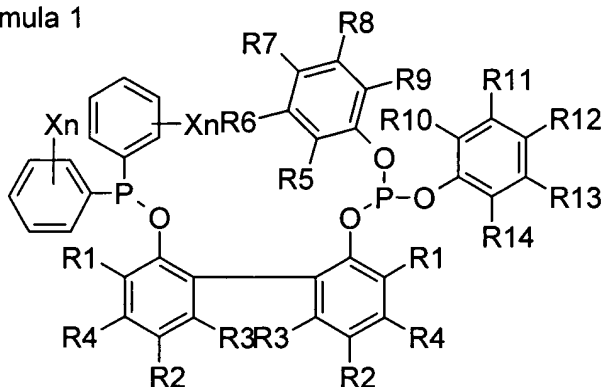
AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of the claims will replace all prior versions and listings of the claims in this application.

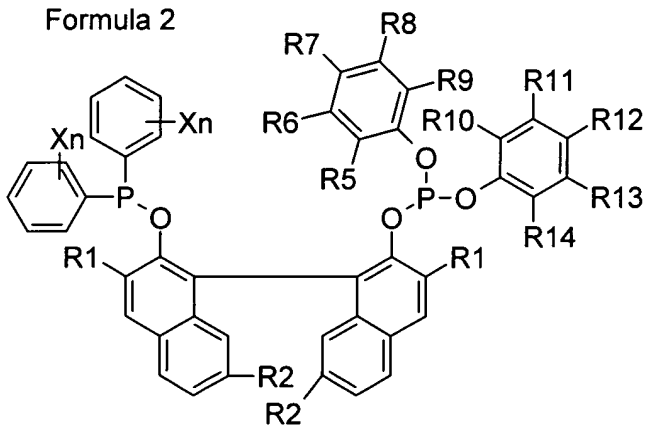
Listing of the Claims:

1. (Currently amended) A phosphinite phosphite ~~I of the formula 1 or 2 or 3 or 4 or 5 or 6~~ selected from the group consisting of Formula 1, Formula 2, Formula 3, Formula 4, Formula 5 and Formula 6,

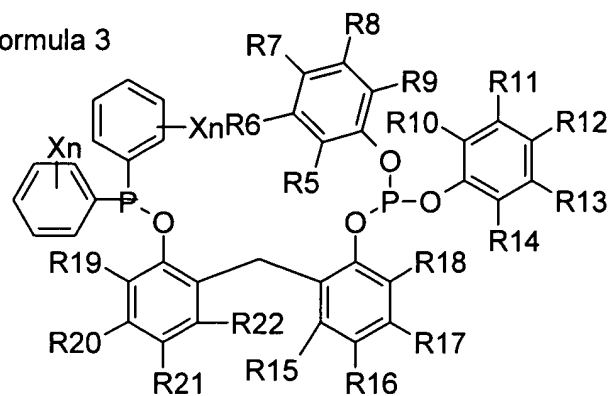
Formula 1



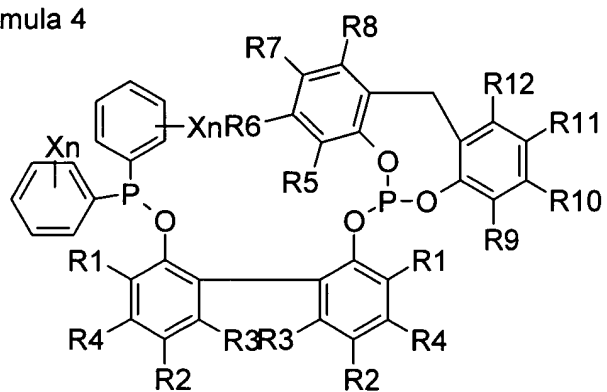
Formula 2



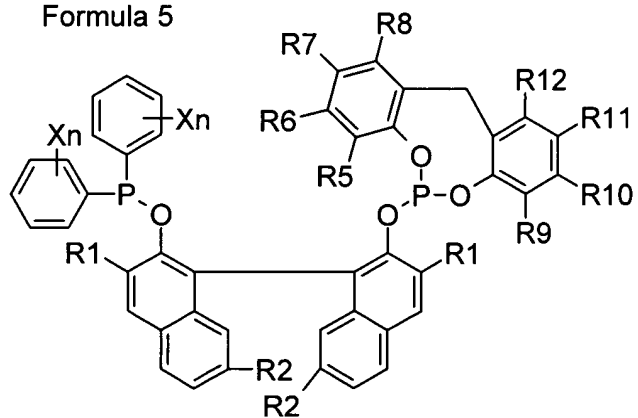
Formula 3

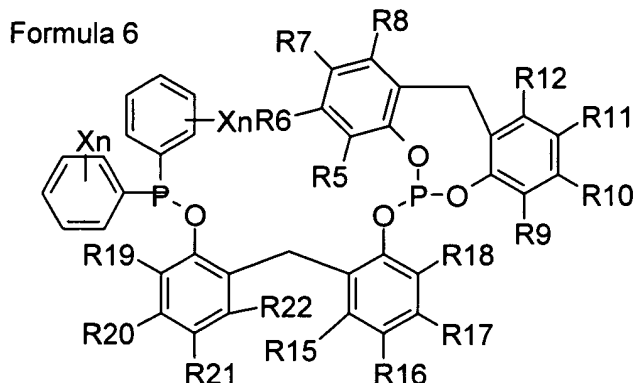


Formula 4



Formula 5





where

R1, R2, R4 are each independently an alkyl or alkylene group having from 1 to 8 carbon atoms, with the proviso that at least one of the R1, R2, R4 groups is not H,

R5 to R22 are each independently H, an alkyl or alkylene group having from 1 to 8 carbon atoms,

R3 is H, methyl or ethyl,

X is F, Cl or CF₃ when if n is 1 or 2,

~~X is H when n is 0,~~

and mixtures thereof.

2. (Currently amended) A phosphinite phosphite ~~I~~ as claimed in claim 1 where R1, R2, R4, R5, R7, R8, R10, R12, R13 are each independently selected from the group consisting of H, methyl, ethyl, n-propyl, isopropyl and t-butyl.

3. (Currently amended) The use of a phosphinite phosphite ~~I~~ as claimed in claim 1 ~~or 2~~ as a ligand in transition metal complexes.

4. (Currently amended) A transition metal complex containing a phosphinite phosphite ~~I~~ as claimed in claim 1 ~~or 2~~ as a ligand.

5. (Currently amended) A transition metal complex as claimed in claim 4, wherein the transition metal ~~used~~ is nickel.

6. (Currently amended) A process for preparing a transition metal complexes complex as claimed in claim 4 ~~or 5~~, ~~wherein an elemental transition metal comprising reacting a transition metal~~ or a chemical compound containing a transition metal with a phosphinite phosphite ~~of the formula I~~ as claimed in claim 1 ~~or 2~~.

7. (Currently amended) The use of a transition metal complexes complex as claimed in claim 4 ~~or 5~~ as a catalyst.

8. (Currently amended) The use of the transition metal complex as claimed in claim 7 ~~as a catalyst~~ for the addition of hydrocyanic acid to an olefinic double bond.

9. (Currently amended) The use of the transition metal complex as claimed in claim 7 ~~as a catalyst~~ for the isomerization of organic nitriles.

10. (Currently amended) A process ~~for~~ comprising adding hydrocyanic acid to an olefinic double bond in the presence of a catalyst, wherein the catalyst ~~used~~ is a transition metal complex as claimed in claim 4 ~~or 5~~.

11. (Currently amended) A process as claimed in claim 10, wherein the hydrocyanic acid is added to butadiene to obtain a compound selected from the group consisting of 2-methyl-3-butenenitrile and 3-pentenitrile.

12. (Currently amended) A process as claimed in claim 10, wherein the hydrocyanic acid is added to a 3-pentenitrile, 4-pentenitrile or mixtures thereof to obtain adiponitrile.

13. (Currently amended) A process ~~for~~ comprising isomerizing organic nitriles in the presence of a catalyst, wherein the catalyst used is a transition metal complex as claimed in claim 4 ~~or 5~~.

14. (Original) A process as claimed in claim 13, wherein 2-methyl-3-butenenitrile is isomerized to 3-pentenitrile.

15. (New) A phosphinate phosphite of claim 1 wherein the phosphite is of Formula 1.

16. (New) A phosphinate phosphite of claim 1 wherein the phosphite is of Formula 2.

17. (New) A phosphinate phosphite of claim 1 wherein the phosphite is of Formula 3.

18. (New) A phosphinate phosphite of claim 1 wherein the phosphite is of Formula 4

19. (New) A phosphinate phosphite of claim 1 wherein the phosphite is of Formula 5.

20. (New) A phosphinate phosphite of claim 1 wherein the phosphite is of Formula 6.